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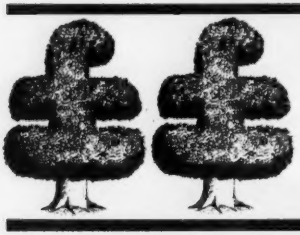
THE IRISH DEFENCE JOURNAL AUGUST 1979 30p

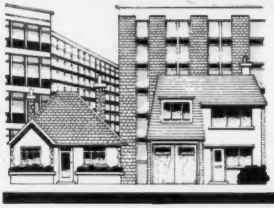
New Ireland Linked Funds

Performance



Evergreen Fund

(May 1978-May 1979)	+35.7%
(June 1971-May 1979)	+143.5%



Property Fund

(May 1978-May 1979)	+22.4%
(February 1975-May 1979)	+80.3%

Gilt Edge Fund

(May 1978-May 1979)	+15.0%
(December 1976-May 1979)	+53.2%

Note: The value of the units in a Fund is directly related to the market performance of the Fund and it may rise or fall with investment conditions. The performance of the three Funds for the past year and since inception is shown above.

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Next Month

The next issue of this journal will be devoted to the History of the Cadet School, The Military College to mark the 50th Anniversary of the school. It will contain the history of that institution and special features on other aspects of Cadet training.

Cover:
Cpl. W. Barry, A Coy, 29 Inf. Bn., on patrol. (Photo: Ronan Quinlan)

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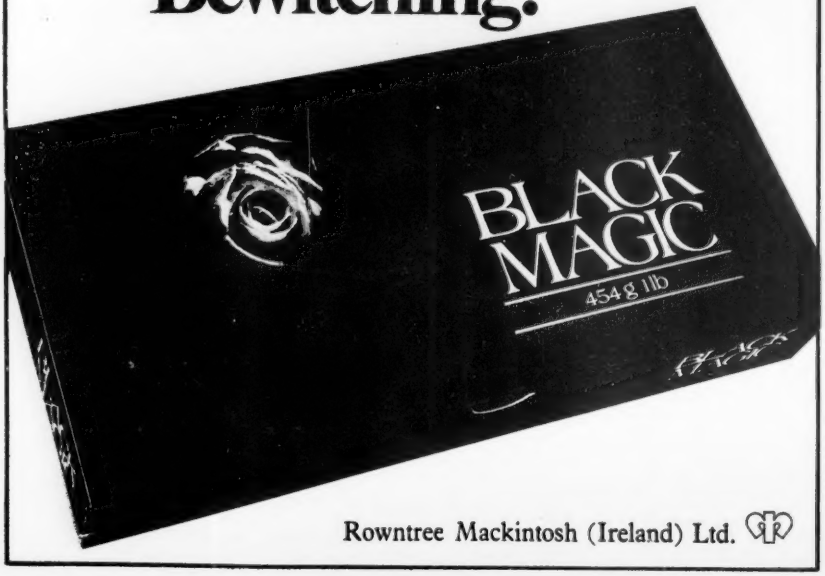

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THE MAD ESCAPE

T. Ryle Dwyer *

AS did so many Canadians who went overseas in 1941, Pilot Officer Jack Calder of the Royal Canadian Air Force determined to help rid the world of the Nazi menace. He also had hopes of being able to see as much of Europe as possible — including Ireland, the land of his maternal ancestors. But he could never have envisioned that much of his time overseas would be spent with eight other Canadians in one of the strangest POW camps of the war, in the neutral part of the Emerald Isle, and that in an adjoining compound there would be *German* POWs.

It all began on the night of October 24, 1941, when Calder, who was the navigator in a Wellington bomber piloted by his friend, PO Ralph (Bob) Keefer of Westmount, Quebec, got lost while returning from a bombing mission. Suddenly they found themselves over the west coast of Ireland running low on fuel. They tried desperately to find an airfield, but their efforts were in vain. Keefer then had no alternative but to order the crew to bail out.

They knew that Ireland, or Eire as is was then called, was neutral and that they would be interned if caught. They therefore hoped to land quietly and make their way the 100 or so miles to Allied territory in Northern Ireland. But their plans were wrecked when the pilotless plane, which Keefer had directed out over the Atlantic swung back inland and came down with a thunderous crash that alerted the countryside. As a result none of them was able to get far before being picked up.

Calder was taken to a police station in the village of Quilty, County Clare, where he was quickly joined by Keefer and the four British sergeants who had been flying with them. They were given a hearty Irish breakfast of bacon and eggs with some Irish whisky to drink while the police waited for transportation to take them to the internment camp at the Curragh, about 30 miles from Dublin.

As Calder waited, he thought back over the six months since he had left Canada. It had indeed been an eventful time for the young airman, who was born in Regina in 1915.

Before enlisting in the RCAF, he had been a journalist — first in Chatham, Ontario, where his father, Rev. A. C. Calder, an Anglican minister, had been elected to the legislature from the constituency of Kent West. After a stint as a sports reporter with the Chatham *Daily News*, the younger

PO John Calder (right) at the Curragh Golf Club with Tom and Jim Lawlor from Naas and PO Ralph Keafer, who was Calder's pilot (second from left).

Calder joined The Canadian Press and during five years with the agency became Ontario editor in Toronto. His keen instincts for a good story served him well in the RCAF.

Shortly after his arrival in Britain, Calder, together with 54 other airmen from various parts of the Commonwealth, was being shown around Windsor Castle on a routine tour. Much to their surprise, the men were invited to tea with King George VI, the Queen and Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret. The account of the royal meeting, which Calder sent to CP, made front-page news throughout Canada, as did his account some weeks later of a daylight bombing raid on Brest. The mission then was to attack the German battleship, *Gneisenau*, which was in drydock in the French port at the time.

It was Calder's first daylight raid and he wrote a detailed account, which was carried prominently in Canadian and some American newspapers. It was in fact the first eyewitness account published in the Canadian press of a bombing raid as seen from the air by a participant. Nevertheless it was not a particularly successful raid, since none of the three planes in the formation managed to make a direct hit on the battleship. But Calder was still able to take some satisfaction from the mission.

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* Dr. Dwyer is writing a book on belligerent internees in Ireland. He would be interested in hearing from personnel with knowledge of the subject.

"At least we had helped to mess up the docks," he explained. He also noted that they had been officially credited with shooting down three enemy aircraft, and their New Zealand pilot was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for the mission. "We were shot up slightly," Calder concluded, "but no one was hurt."

The young Canadian airman was also on several eventful night raids over Belgium, the Netherlands, France and even into the heart of Germany before that night that he had to bail out over Ireland. These various incidents ran through his mind as he waited to be transported to the Irish concentration camp. He was afraid that the war might be over for him.

It seems misleading to refer to the camp at the Curragh as a concentration camp at all, because it was more like a holiday resort. It had none of the poor food, squalor, or overcrowding normally associated with POW camps.

The 33 Allied internees — who included nine Canadians, two Poles, a Frenchman, a New Zealander and an American, with the rest coming from the British Isles — were housed in spacious six-room huts with two enlisted men to a room and each of the officers having a room of his own. A Dublin firm collected the laundry once a week, and three Irish Army orderlies were detailed to attend to the needs of the ten officers.

Food was good and plentiful. After the usual breakfast of bacon and eggs came roast beef and vegetables for dinner, and cheese and bread for supper. And there was butter, tea, milk and sugar at all meals.

The men had a canteen where they could purchase extra food, and they also had their own bar, where they could buy beer and liquor at reasonable prices. In fact, these were cheaper in the camp than at pubs in nearby towns.

Camp rules were lenient. One of the biggest complaints was from those who were unable to sleep because of the noise made by colleagues who frequently stayed up all night playing cards. The men received their full pay from home and were free to have bank accounts and wear civilian clothes.

Each day they were able to sign out on parole, provided they promised to return by the evening of the following day. They were then free to go anywhere within the triangular area formed by the three towns of Newbridge, Kilcullen and Kildare, each of which was about three miles from the camp. Then once a week they were bused to Dublin for a full day.

There were ample recreational facilities within the camp for baseball, boxing, table tennis, rugby, soccer and tennis, and the men had access to the Irish Army swimming pool and squash courts nearby. Some of the equipment was provided by the Canadian High Commissioner to Eire, John D. Kearney of Montreal, whom Calder described as "a real father to us".

Kearney was always willing to help the Canadian internees, who came from across Canada — from Moncton, New Brunswick, to Port Alberni, British Columbia. He frequently had them as his guests in Dublin, especially over the Christmas period. And he also forwarded Canadian newspapers and magazines to them at camp. The men also had several radios and all kept abreast of the latest war news.

Many of the men took advantage of the excellent fishing in local rivers and some even rode with the local hunt. One of the British internees actually had his own hunter, which he kept in a nearby stable.

Several of the man were members of private golf and tennis clubs in nearby towns, and three of them played on the Newbridge soccer team, while three others were members of that town's rugby team. Within the camp they also had their own cricket, soccer and table tennis teams, which frequently played Irish Army teams with much success.

The internees were on such friendly terms with local people that they were given free passes to cinemas, dances and race meetings at the renowned Curragh race course, the site for the country's richest horse races, including the Irish Derby. They became so familiar with the racing scene that, Calder noted, they were often asked by racegoers for tips.

The men were frequently invited to Irish homes for meals and several of them had Irish girlfrields. Sgt. Roswell Tees of Thorold, Ont., actually married a local girl while he was interned. He was given an extended parole for his honeymoon in Dublin.

One of the strangest aspects of the Curragh internment camp was that German airmen were being held in a compound separated from their Allied counterparts only by a corrugated iron fence and some barbed wire. Though they were afforded identical treatment, they had very little contact with the Allied internees.

"When we met on parole," Roswell Tees recalled recently, "it was sort of an unwritten law that we completely disregardded one another. We just passed each other as if we were passing an empty space."

On occasions such as swimming meets and tennis tournaments, individual German and Allied internees did sometimes meet in competition, and then the rivalry was intense. Once, for example, members of the Allied table tennis team were surprised to find that two Germans were playing with a Newbridge team that had challenged them.

Sgt. Tees was drawn against one of the Germans. "Though I am usually a good loser," he says now, "I was thoroughly chagrined when I lost to him. It was like losing the war!"

There was some Irish amusement on more than one occasion when German and Allied internees attended the same Sunday services in one of the small local churches. And there was also a rumour that British internees had helped a couple of the Germans to overcome the language barrier while shopping in Dublin. But Calder strongly denied that story. He explained that the men in question were actually helping the two Polish internees.

Some taunting went on between the Allied and German airmen in the camp itself. Before Calder's internment, for example, the German delegation in Dublin sent down a car with food and drink for a noisy celebration when it was learned that the German battleship *Bismarck* had sunk *HMS Hood*, the pride of the Royal Navy.

But the Germans had hardly had time to recover from their hangovers when the news broke that the *Bismarck* herself had been sunk. This gave rise to great Allied jubilation. It was really the first good war news that the men had had since being interned.

There were many dark days ahead, however. Calder noted that on nights when German victories were announced in the North African campaign, the Allied internees were tormented by having to listen to the repeated singing of *Deutschland Uber Alles* and shouts of "Heil Hitler". But the Allied airman were ready for the tide of battle to turn.

They prepared for the announcement of Montgomery's counter-attack in North Africa.

"We smuggled fireworks into our quarters," Calder recalled with satisfaction some months later. "The young Nazis never had a chance to reply to the hullabaloo we raised that night."

Initially the Allied internees were given hope that if the United States entered the conflict, then Ireland would join the Allies. "When America comes into the war," local people told Calder, "Eire will come in too. Then you'll be set free."

But when the United States did come in some weeks later, the Irish government made no move to become involved. Its attitude was understandable. The country was virtually defenceless and the overwhelming majority of the people wanted to avoid being bombed. Calder found that "the ordeal of the English population served, in a way, to strengthen Eire's determination to avoid the horrors of modern war."

The Allied internees, on the other hand, were eager to get back into action. The Canadians — all of whom had volunteered for combat duty — were particularly restive.

Calder wrote that their internment "would be a luxurious way of living through the war," especially as anyone who wished could take university courses in order to prepare for a post-war career. But while many of the Germans took advantage of those courses and also organized language classes within the camp, the Allied internees were simply not

PO Calder in 1941, shortly before he was interned.

interested. "Our boys", High Commissioner Kearney reported, "rightly or wrongly feel that if they organize classes, it might be interpreted as acquiescence to their lot, whereas they want it known that they are doing all they can to rejoin their units."

The men found themselves according to Calder, in "a situation of paradoxes and puzzles, of friendliness and bitterness under conditions that none of us sought and all would do anything to end." He admitted that "the atmosphere of horses, fishing and Irish colleens could be pretty lulling," but these were not as important as getting back into action.

"Somehow," he added, "we aren't always thinking of those things." Instead, escape was the main topic of conversation in the camp, and the Canadians were involved in more than their share of escape attempts.

Allied internees were under orders not to violate parole. Once they signed out of the camp, they were not supposed to attempt to escape until they had signed in again. And British authorities promised to return anyone who escaped by violating those conditions.

PO R. L. Wolfe of Ceresco, Nebraska, who was a member of the famed Eagle Squadron of the RAF, was actually returned after he had escaped to Northern Ireland. He had signed out on parole and then gone back into the camp on the pretext of having forgotten his gloves. He then went out again

without signing out.

The Irish contended, however, that in order to escape legitimately, he should have signed in when he went back for his gloves. British authorities agreed, so Wolfe was returned to the Curragh.

Calder noted that escape was very difficult because the Irish guards seemed to know "all the tricks". The camp was surrounded by a formidable series of 14-foot high fences, consisting of thickly coiled barbed wire stranded on poles six feet apart, and overlooked by four elevated gun posts.

At night those not out on parole were locked into their huts, which were raised a couple of feet above the ground with lighting underneath so that tunnelling could easily be detected. In addition, several guards were stationed in a hut within the compound.

The biggest escape attempt was led by the senior Allied officer in the camp, Flight Lieutenant Grant Fleming of Calgary. It involved all but one of those interned. The sole exception was a Polish captain who was out on parole on the night of February 9, 1942, when the break was attempted.

The whole operation had been carefully planned. The men smuggled wire cutters into the camp and improvised a couple of rope ladders. They also made some smoke bombs for cover in case something went wrong.

At first everything went according to plan. Five men managed to get over the first fence. But the sentries were alerted when one of the ladders broke, two of the men hurtling into the barbed wire. Guards rushed to the scene and some shots were fired, but Kearned learned that only blanks were used because Irish authorities were anxious that nobody should be shot attempting to escape. Most of the guards therefore had only wooden batons.

A fierce battle ensued with each side later blaming the other for the violence. Internees complained that excessive force was used by guards, but Kearney thought that the actions of the latter were "not without provocation". Both he and the British representative in Dublin thought that the internees "would not have complained of roughness if some had succeeded in escaping." In an effort to restore harmony at the camp, Kearney suggested that some specified guards should be transferred. And when this was done, the situation quickly returned to normal.

On August 17, 1942, there was another mass escape attempt in which Calder played a leading part. It involved all the Canadians, with the exception of Flt. Lt. Jack Ward of Vancouver. He was not told of the planned escape because his wife was over on a visit to Ireland and his colleagues feared that the guards would become suspicious if he did not take advantage of his parole privileges to join her.

The escape was timed for when Wolfe and Calder were going out on parole with their bicycles. As Wolfe reached the first gate he stooped down to adjust his bicycle clips.

"All right, Jack," he said turning to Calder, "you go ahead, I won't be a minute."

When the sentry opened the gate, through which only one man was permitted at a time, Wolfe threw his bicycle into the gateway and Calder overpowered the startled guard. Thirteen or fourteen internees immediately rushed through and surprised the sentry at the second gate, which they took off its hinges by using two iron bars dismantled from a shower. They then had only an outer ring of barbed wire to clear, and four Canadians were among the nine men who managed to scale it.

Six of the escapers were later recaptured. Sgt. Charles Brady of Toronto was arrested after about an hour in the vicinity of the camp. Although Sgt. Duncan Fowler of Port Alberni managed to stay out all night, he was caught late the following day just outside Dublin. He was then taken to a police station from where he made another break, but was again caught after a short chase.

The other two Canadians, Grant Fleming and Ralph Keefer, were hidden by some Irish friends for 11 days and then helped over the border into Northern Ireland. They too returned to active duty and flew together before Fleming was shot down and killed while on a reconnaissance mission over southern Germany in September, 1944.

In June, 1943, Calder undertook what was undoubtedly the most elaborate and dangerous escape attempt of all. He began by securing personal publicity by writing a series of CP articles on conditions in Ireland. Then, with advice from a doctor friend, he pretended to become extremely depressed and swallowed iodine in an effort to convince Irish authorities that he was trying to commit suicide. He was rushed to hospital in Dublin.

The plan was to persuade the Irish to free him on medical grounds rather than risk the unfavourable publicity that Irish neutrality would inevitably get in the Allied press if the author of the recent articles should kill himself. He did such an effective job of feigning a mental breakdown that Kearney had little difficulty persuading the Dublin government to transfer him to Britain for medical treatment. In fact, Calder later told his family that he had more trouble convincing the British that he was sane than he had in persuading the Irish that he was going mad.

Having been unconditionally released, he was free to return to his unit, but he was ordered not to write anything further about his Irish experiences. This was because Kearney was trying to persuade the Irish government to release secretly the remaining internees and he was afraid that publicity in Calder's case might prove damaging.

Kearney was eventually successful. The Irish

moved the Allied internees to a new camp away from the Germans, then released all but eight of them in October, 1943. The remainder were freed the following June after the successful invasion of Normandy virtually eliminated any danger of German retaliation against Ireland. None of the Germans, however, were released during the war, with the result that there were more than 250 of them interned when the conflict ended.

Meanwhile Calder was in hospital after being involved in a plane crash in which he was the lone survivor. For a time doctors deliberated on whether it would be necessary to amputate one of his legs, but after ten months in the famed Victoria Hospital in East Grinstead, he was completely recovered. While recuperating, he dug the ceremonial first sod for a Canadian wing, and also wrote another widely circulated article concerning the medical treatment that Canadians were receiving in the hospital.

Calder returned to active service in mid-July, 1944. "I'm happy to be in the thick of things again," he wrote to his mother. "We shall be working very fast and hard," but he added that he also anticipated having plenty of leave "to see a good deal more of these islands than I have already seen. I have been fortunate in that respect, haven't i?"

Within a few days of his return to duty, however, his plane received a direct hit from some heavy anti-aircraft fire while on a bombing mission over Hamburg. With the plane in flames the British pilot ordered the crew to bail out.

"Jack had some difficulty in leaving the aircraft", the pilot recalled later, "but I myself saw him clip his parachute on and leave. I followed him out. Unfortunately we were over the coast and the wind blew us out to sea." While the pilot had his seat-type dinghy on, he noted that navigators never wore them while bombing and Calder "was not wearing his when he bailed out."

"Whether Jack landed in the sea or not," the pilot added, "I could not say, but there not having been any news of him would seem to suggest that. I made many inquiries through the Red Cross and various sources while I was in POW camp, but the answer was always in the negative."

Presumably Calder was already dead when his mother received her last letter from him, which was mailed a few days before the fatal mission. It was an ironic letter.

"If I should go 'missing'," the young airman concluded, "I would want you to be very quiet about it — particularly when the newspapers phone — because I probably would be walking back to you. And if I should fail to get clear, I would want you to think of me walking towards you anyway, for that is what I would want to be doing. There is no death you know."

Reprinted from THE CANADIAN, March 1978.

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DFAA FIXTURES — SEPTEMBER

Hurling		
5 Sept.	A. Air Corps v C. Comd. B. S. Comd. v N.S.	
11 Sept.	Winner A. v W. Comd.	
	Winner B. v E. Comd.	Army Grounds, Phoenix Park.
12 Sept.	**Final**	**Do.**
Swimming		
11/12 Sept.	Curragh	
Gaelic Football		
19 Sept.	E. Comd. v S. Comd.	
25 Sept.	**Semi Finals** Winner A. v W. Comd. Curragh Comd. v. Air Corps	Baldonnel
26 Sept.	**Final** Baldonnel	Baldonnell

WAR & PEACE IN THE SINAI

Lt. Col. E. D. Doyle

Aerial Reconnaissance

Mention has been made of US aerial reconnaissance under the 1975 Agreement. The results of these flights were made available to Egypt, Israel and the UN Chief Co-ordinator. They were flown every 7—10 days. There was, in effect, partial aerial reconnaissance by the parties (up to the BZ median line — see Fig. 1), overall aerial reconnaissance by the US and detailed ground verification by UN Observers. In the new agreement the parties formally ask the US to continue airborne surveillance until the final Israeli withdrawal is completed. There seems to be no provision for such surveillance after that. This is understandable — the Sinai will then have reverted to Egyptian control. But ground verification will then be "on its own" and must be less effective.

A point about US aerial recce under the new agreement is that "only the main elements in the military organizations of each party . . . will be reported". One could speculate about the reasons for this. Whatever they may be, there is no doubt that this kind of "Third Party" overall surveillance greatly helped confidence-building under the 1975 agreement. Could one see in it a role for the super-powers in future peace-keeping, at a time when there is less tension and distrust between them? It could be, and preferably should be, undertaken jointly. The 1945 spirit in which the UN Charter was drawn up did not last long. It left the world with an odd document. Its basic premise of concerted action by a united Security Council "Big 5" just vanished. The kind of joint overall surveillance suggested here would not be the kind of Permanent Member direction of enforcement action which the Charter envisaged, and which we are unlikely to see. But it is a task which only great powers could do on a sufficiently large and consistent scale. The relaxation of tension, "detente" if you like, between the super-powers, which would be needed before such a role became politically practical, seems out of sight today. We should not assume that it will be the case for ever. Failing this, however, is it better that one super-power should take on this task than that it should be left undone?

Aircraft

Under the heading "Aerial Military Regime" the new agreement provides that "Flights of combat aircraft and reconnaissance flights of Egypt and Israel shall take place only over Zones A and D respectively." It also provides that "only unarmed, noncombat aircraft of Egypt and Israel will be stationed in Zones A and D respectively." Other clauses provide for unarmed aircraft and helicopters elsewhere and the building of civilian airfields only. It is not clear how much of this Article (if any) will be subject to verification.

Composition of the UN Force

A major change, as far as Sinai Agreements are concerned, appears in Article VI.8 of Annex I, the new Agreement, which says that:—

"The parties shall agree on the nations from which the United Nations force and observers will be drawn. They will be drawn from nations other than those which are permanent members of the United Nations Security Council."

The Protocol to the 1974 Golan Separation of the Forces Agreement did provide that "The number of the UNDOF shall be about 1,200 who will be selected by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in consultation with the parties from members of the UN who are not permanent members of the Security Council."

Now what have been called "acceptability to the parties" and "host country consent" are nowhere provided for in the UN Charter. But the practice is that a "host" country must agree to the stationing of a UN force on its territory, and also agree to the composition of that force. The latter requirement is delicate and less explicitly stated than the former. There is also a distinction between the consent of the "host" country, on whose soil the force is actually to be stationed, and the consent of other parties to a dispute. The situation regarding "host country consent" was first formalized in the remarkably prescient study on UNEF I, published in 1958. Sometimes called the "Hammarskjold Principles", but officially entitled "Report of the Secretary General; UNEF: Summary Study of the Experience Derived from the Establishment and Operation of the Force (UN Document A/3943 of

Oct. 1958)", it is a seminal document. As Col. Fisher says (Hammarskjold) " . . . enunciated principles or guidance which have assumed practically the force of legal precedent". The document was drafted by men who saw UN operations steadily and saw them whole, men who had the ability to rise above mere anecdotage. The lessons drawn and the principles formulated result from hard and logical thinking by some first-class minds. They start from the premise, not always well understood then or since, that "the arrangements discussed in this report do not cover the type of force envisaged under Chapter VII of the Charter".

Two points arise in the mind of a reader today. The experience of peace-keeping from which the document emanated was very limited compared with that now available. Secondly, not all the points made in this study have remained valid. However, no one can cavil at the paragraph on "Host Country Consent to Force Composition" which says "while the United Nations must reserve for itself the authority to decide on the composition of such elements (of a UN Force), it is obvious that the host country, in giving its consent, cannot be indifferent to the composition of those elements. In order to limit the scope of possible difference of opinion, the United Nations in the recent operations has followed two principles, not to include units from any of the permanent members of the Security Council, and not to include units from any country which, because of its geographical position or for other reasons, might be considered as possibly having a special interest in the situation which has called for the operation". It seems generally accepted nowadays that "the choice of the Force Commander and certain of his senior staff officers is subject to the same procedure though in their case they have to be acceptable to all parties concerned in the dispute". (Peacekeepers' Handbook).

Forming a Force

Much negotiation on these matters is required in the early stages of an operation. It is behind the scenes work with no publicity, for obvious reasons. Clearly, it simplifies matters if "permanent member-nations of the Security Council" are excluded. There can be few parts of the world, and few disputes, in which some one or more of the "permanent members" do not have an interest. If one member is excluded, all must be excluded. In the process the UN loses the countries with greatest resources and most efficient organizations, but peace-keeping operations are complex enough without importing the cold war into the force which is carrying them out. In practice, however, there are exceptions. We find Britain in the Peacekeeping Force in UNFICYP and France in UNIFIL — not to mention the US, France and Soviet Union in UNTSO.

All this said, there may well be raised eyebrows at the explicitness of Article VI.8 and it will be regrettable, and personally sad for this writer, if the unique arrangements in the Sinai whereby US and Soviet officers worked together must now cease. Early in 1976, after the re-deployment resulting from the 1975 Agreement, it became possible to roster Soviet officers of Observer Group Sinai with those of 16 other nationalities for check-point and patrol duties. They had already been doing verification duties. This involved eight-day stints in the desert, living in the same tents and Portakamps, and patrolling in the same vehicles. Because of restrictions elsewhere, Soviet and American officers in particular, were often rostered together in the North Sinai. The arrangements worked well. Duties were carried out in an efficient and professional way, and the officers showed willingness and ability to work long hours together in harsh conditions, in the cause of peace. Numerically, it was a small affair — perhaps 35 to 40 officers in all at any one time — but it was probably unique in the world. The first field shower, delivered after many months, was assembled and plumbed by a U.S. Marine and a Soviet Infantry Officer. It is a pity that the witty, and very useful, illustrated instruction they jointly produced on the subject must be one of the few tangible souvenirs to remain.

Shared Roads

A feature of the 1975 Agreement was the arrangement for joint use of the road along the Gulf of Suez, near the oilfield area, by both Egyptian and Israeli vehicles. This arose from the geography of the area. The arrangements were interesting, and again illustrate the need for third party assistance in confidence building. Usage alternated for 2½ to 3½ hour periods between the parties during the day, with free periods in between. UN patrols inspected the roads after one user finished and before the other started. This gave assurance against ambushes being left behind (a very unlikely possibility). From a more practical point of view, there was the danger that a disabled vehicle, pushed off the road, might look like an ambush and be treated as such.

There is a provision in the new Agreement to assist Israeli withdrawal around the road hub near El Arish — presumably because the area up to El Arish will then be re-occupied by Egyptian forces. An arrangement similar to the old escorts on the Kyrenia road in Cyprus will be used. An Egyptian LO will also accompany the convoys.

Early Warning Stations

The new Agreement also allows the Israeli Early Warning Stations to operate until the Israeli troops have pulled back from the interim withdrawal line, or up to a time agreed by the parties. After that,

Early Warning Stations may be established only in Zones A and D. An interesting feature of the 1975 Agreement was the arrangement whereby two "surveillance stations to provide strategic early warning", one operated by Egyptian and one by Israeli personnel, existed within the Buffer Zone near the vital Giddi and Mitla Passes. "In support of these stations, to provide tactical early warning and to verify access to them, three Watch Stations shall be established by the United States in the Mitla and Giddi Passes . . . operated by U.S. personnel." Further articles required that these stations should be manned by unarmed civilians who would "immediately report to the Parties and to UNEF any movement of armed forces, other than UNEF, into either Pass and any observed preparations for such movement". Again, these were further links in the confidence-building process. The agreement also stated that the US would withdraw its personnel "only if it concludes that their safety is jeopardized or that continuation of their role is no longer necessary". Furthermore "if both parties . . . request the United States to conclude its role under this Proposal, the United States will consider such requests conclusive". The assurances could hardly have been more explicit. In the 1979 Treaty the parties have, in effect, asked the U.S. to close the station.

The proposal was a creative one. The installation turned out to be a remarkable piece of work. American drive, technology and organization got a temporary station erected within a few months — to the UN Observers, still living in tents a long time afterwards, it looked pretty permanent. It was, however, rapidly followed by a magnificent permanent complex. And so, on a wild plateau in the Central Sinai, three separate technological installations went up — the Israeli one looking West, the Egyptian one looking East and the American one, in effect, looking both ways — although its role was essentially short-distance and tactical. Detailed regulations for the control of access, the admission of relief and maintenance teams, etc., had to be formulated and executed by Observer Group Sinai. The whole scheme was imaginative, and it was implemented with energy and good faith by all concerned. It was of course, of great interest to anyone interested in the future of peacekeeping. The technology used will develop — we should keep in touch with it.

Again a third party role, almost uniquely within its capacity, has been filled by a super-power. Could not this, too, be a precedent for the future? It must be said that the American Congress showed understandable nervousness about agreeing to the installation, so soon after getting out of the Viet Nam war. Neither side seems ever to have had any reason to complain of US partiality — either about aerial reconnaissance results or about the warning station. The American policy of openness on the station contributed much to this. Accredited visitors of many nationalities were welcomed and shown the installation and its capabilities. (A good description is given in the International Peace Academy's Newsletter for Autumn, 1978.) American self-interest was involved in all this, of course. But who, in international politics, acts disinterestedly?

Other Points

There are many other points in the new Treaty. The transfer of oil installations and airfields; the maintenance of water supplies during the withdrawal; the long-term restoration of telecommunication, road and railway links, and the free passage of persons and goods are matters with which the UN (or other "acceptable alternative multi-national force") may or may not be concerned.

There are many strictly political matters also. These are outside the scope of this article. It is now possible to look at the Sinai Agreements as a whole and say that, taken together, they constitute a "Peacemaking" process, i.e. "an effort to settle a conflict through mediation, negotiation or other forms of peaceful settlement". They may only have succeeded in a limited area. But it should be noted how each agreement, followed by its successful supervision by the United Nations, led on to a broader one. There was, and could be, no sweeping single agreement to hand back the Sinai. The October War set the process in motion, and there was no going back to the old stalemate once it started. It was a case of the "inevitability of gradualness". Agreement by agreement, step by step, Egypt has regained the Sinai. Whatever the political controversies may be, and they are serious indeed, it seems that lessons have been learnt and improvements have been made — by the parties and by the peacekeepers. It is clear that there would have been no progression had the UN not done an efficient job of supervising the agreements. And without United States initiatives and imaginative proposals, there might well have been failure in the negotiating stages.

The Compromises of Negotiation

Two points must be remembered in reading any agreement of this kind:

(a) It is too much to expect that it will be entirely devoid of anomalies and imprecision. (A classic case with the Sept. 1975 Agreement was its limitation of "Eight standard infantry battalions" to be stationed in the Limited Forces Areas. The immediate query "What's a standard infantry battalion"? was unanswerable.)

(b) There will be modifications on the ground, if some agreement provisions prove impractical. This is where true "Third Party" supervision and good offices can be particularly useful.

As far as anomalies and imprecision are concerned, the simple fact is that such agreements are the result of hard negotiation. In some cases an attempt to get absolute clarity and freedom from anomalies would only result in failure to get agreement. This makes things hard for the Peacekeeping Force. Nevertheless, it is argued, by Pelcovits and others, that there is a value in "creative ambiguity", it allows interpretation and adjustment on the ground. We must remember also, however, that the "parties will have differing and often contrary expectations of the UN's role" as Pelcovits says. The right combination of flexibility, with good leadership and firmness, becomes very important. "Trying to clarify ambiguities would tend to be destabilizing".

The Sinai — Past and Future

One is, of course, aware of the deep emotions for and against this Treaty. In trying to examine it objectively one is not forgetting them, or expressing any views on the basic problems. One would like to think of the Sinai settling down to years of peace, of the sand covering the burnt out tanks and shattered guns, and filling the bunkers and weapon pits. The mine-fields will be a danger to the Bedouin and their camels for years to come; the orderly rows of AP and AT menace will appear and disappear with the sand-storms. Can one hope that no more will be laid? The Sinai is no place of soft beauty, and it has no pity for the weak. But it has an extraordinary and fascinating variety. To leave the Canal behind in the very early morning, with its demolished fortresses and its fringe of war debris and push on into the clean, silent desert, going South towards the Gulf, was a wonderful feeling. Later in the day the sun could reach its merciless 120 degrees, but in the early morning, it was still cool, and the hawks were up. Translucent against the sun, every feather separate, their wings are not like those of our hawks. Watching one alighting and preening itself on a rock, it was clear where the ancient artists got their inspiration. Over the tombs and effigies of kings this bird is omnipresent, wings spread protectively, with the same separate and translucent feathers. The wild dogs one sees are startlingly similar to those modelled in the tombs of 5,000 years ago; the same pointed nose and ears, even the same couched attitude. A herd of gazelle explodes from the sparse bushes, bound, almost airborne, in front of the car, and are gone. Then the sea, cobalt shading to green along the Gulf, the basalt hills streaked with erosion, and the marvellous sunsets over the mountains on the Western side of the Gulf of Suez. The Pharoahs, driving South to visit their turquoise mines, and the Israelites, wandering 40 years in this desert, have seen the same sunsets. The lights of perhaps 100 ships, riding at anchor outside the canal entrance at Suez are, of course, new. The Monastery of Santa Caterina, founded by Justinian and protected by Mohammed, Arab Caliphs, Turkish Sultans and Napoleon is a mere 1,400 years old. The high dunes of the North Sinai, for which we had to modify jeeps and develop special driving techniques, burn in the sun. The ancient city of Pelusium, which once held Egypt's garrison against invaders from the East, lies under the muddy sands near the Meditteranean. Only a few pillars and the odd coin found by the Bedouin remind one of the greatness which vanished when the Eastern arm of the Nile silted over. Every Spring the Khamsins come and lash man and beast, tent and vehicle, with driving sand and furnace heat. The sun is dimmed, and the very air turns yellow. Then the silence comes again, and the air tastes clean and still.

The Sinai means much to Israel and to Egypt. A harsh, but infinitely varied land, still with names like Ayun Musa, where we opened the first checkpoint in late 1975. "The Springs of Moses", — how has that name persisted for so long? We know of the forty-year journey of the Children of Israel. But anyone who has heard Sadat speak of "our dear Sinai", heard Egyptian officers crossing the Canal for the first time tell each other to step first into Sinai with the right foot, can see there is another tradition. It may make a splendid safari country some day, for adventurous tourists. One would not begrudge it to them, but one hopes the silence and the emptiness will not be entirely lost.

AFTER-NOTE

IT was mentioned earlier that the situation was developing, and that things should be clearer by the time this article was published. It was also indicated that the mandate of UNEF might cease. This has occurred. In his last report to the Security Council (19 July '79) the Secretary General pointed out that "the original context in which UNEF was created and in which it had previously functioned has basically changed during the period under review." He omitted the usual recommendation for renewal and stated

"Whatever decisions the Council may reach I shall, of course, be ready to make the necessary arrangements."

This stems from the Sec. Gen's. recognition of the Security Council's "responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security" under Article 24 of the Charter, and the Council's function to "decide what measures shall be taken" under Art. 39 (see discussion on this in the July issue). In effect the Sec. Gen. left all options open to the Council. The Council did not renew the mandate and UNEF has started withdrawing. An arrangement to have the United Nations Truce Supervisory Organization (UNTSO) continue in the Sinai seems to have been reached in the classic fashion, through an understanding between the Super-powers. As we go to press Israel is opposing this arrangement and asking for "the acceptable **alternative** *multi-national force" referred to in President Carter's letter. (See pages*

197-198 of the July "An Cosantoir"). It appears that this problem may not be solved until September. In the meantime two phases of the new Agreement have been carried out without any third-party supervision. It may be that sufficient confidence now exists between Israel and Egypt to allow completion of the Israeli withdrawal without such supervision?

UNTSO is an all-officer unarmed force which has been in the middle East for 30 years. It is there by virtue of a Security Council resolution, and is not subject to a renewable mandate. Its officers are drawn from 17 countries, including 36 each from the U.S. and the Soviet Union. There is much to be said for this compromise to the Sinai problem. UNTSO would preserve a UN presence. It would provide the Security Council with information and a minimal vestige of control. From the point of view of the rest of the world the inclusion of the two super-powers is important. They should both be involved in peacekeeping, if only to learn something of the constraints involved and the attitudes required. Their symmetrical involvement in UNTSO is probably the most acceptable way. The world being what it is, one cannot imagine inclusion of their combat troops in a UN Force at this stage.

UNTSO keeps a low profile, but it was extraordinary to read, in a recent "New York Times" editorial that it withdrew from the Sinai in 1967. Other remarks made indicated that this was not due to a simple confusion of nomenclature with UNEF I. The article was so crass that it drew a reply from Mr. Brian Urquhart, the UN Under-Secretary-General for special Political Affairs - a rare event. UNTSO, in

Continued on Page 251

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EASTERN COMMAND

Sgt. J. Broderick (Team Captain) receiving E. Comd. Darts Trophies from Capt. M. McMahon in NCO's Mess, Cathal Brugha Bks.

(Photo: P. Long)

E. Comd. Handball team winners of the All Army championship. Front L. to R: Sgts. Dempsey and Quinn, Cpl. Walsh, CQMS Cogley. Back: Pte. Devereaux, Sgt. Lynch, Capt. Hayes, C/S Scott. (Air Corps photo).

BC Rangers who lost to Jeyes in the AUL Cup were members of 5 Inf. Bn. **Front, L. to R.:** Lt. B. McNicholas, Pte. B. Fitzgerald, Cpl. P. Joyce, Ptes. D. Byrne, P. Kenny, P. Lambe, C/S B. McGarrity. **Back:** Ptes. J. Fulham, E. Talbot, D. Jennings, Cpl. M. Pepper, Ptes. J. Hayden, P. Herbert, J. Kearns.

Winners of the Medical Services Cup, Eastern Comd. team: Back Row - L. to R: Cpl. M. Phelan; Pte. B. Higgins; Capt. J. Moran; Lt. J. Lynch; Capts. J. J. O'Reilly; N. Comer; J. Gilleran; S. Cloonan; M. Kennedy; Comdts. P. Archibold and D. O'Donnell. Middle Row: Cpl. J. Barry; Pte. J. Carton; Sgt. P. Rigney; Pte. L. Fitzgibbon; Capts. m. Finn; G. Aherne; Lts. P. Burns; T. Shaw; Capt. M. McGrath and Lt. J. Murphy. Front: Cpl. P. Rooney and Pte. M. Tennison. (Air Corps photo)

WESTERN COMMAND

C/S J. McManus and CQMS W. Wallace recently promoted in the 6 Inf. Bn., Custume Bks.
(Photo: Cpl. J. Caheny)

Cpl. J. Gorman and Cpl. J. Dunne, 6 Inf. Bn., winners of the Command and All Army GPMG competitions.
(Photo: Cpl. J. Caheny)

Sgt. T. Jordan, Cpl. J. O'Neill, Sgt. K. Reid, and Pte. M. Crossan, 28 Inf. Bn., on the range at Finner Camp.
(Photo: Sgt. J. O'Brien)

Sgt. T. Lacey, B. Coy 6 Inf. Bn., provides a smoke screen during exercises held in the GAA Park, Athlone, recently.
(Photo: Cpl. P. O'Callaghan)

No. 5 Recruit Platoon 'B' Coy 28 Bn., Rockhill House. *Back Row – Left to Right:* Cpl. B. Harkin; Ptes. H. Doherty; M. Quirke; D. McCullagh; M. McDevitt; S. Burke; J. O'Brien; C. McGhee; P. Price and C. Kelly; *Centre:* Cpl. C. Lafferty; Ptes. M. Breslin; M. Walker; J. Lynch; O. Dullaghan; S. Gallagher; W. Smith; J. McCartney; H. Farren; J. McBride and T. Kelly. *Front Row:* Cpl. V. Doherty; Ptes. J. McNamee; P. Hurley; E. Doherty; M. McLaughlin; 2/Lt. McDaniels; Sgt. N. Grant; Ptes. J. Gallagher; R. Brennan; P. Duffy and J. Gamble.

SOUTHERN COMMAND

Graduates and Staff from the 48 Potential NCOs Course held at Collins Bks., Cork. Front L. to R: Cpl. Murnaghon (Inst.); C/S Murphy (Inst.); Sgts. McCarthy (Inst.); Dunlee (Inst.); Lt. M. Boylan; Capt. D. Lawlor; Brig. Gen. W. O'Carroll, G.O.C. S. Comd.; Sgm. Buckley (Best Student); Comdt. P. J. Kelly, O/C C. T. Depot; Capt. B. Donagh; Lt. R. Murtagh; Sgt. Maj. W. Lennon; Sgts. Gaffney (Inst.); O'Callaghan (Inst.) and Cpl. O'Keefe (Inst.). (Photo: Cpl. D. Magennis)

Personnel from 1 FAR, Ballincollig, on completion of an NCO Course. L. to R.: Comdt. P. Gillen, Cpl. T. O'Mahony, Comdt. T. P. Galvin, Cpl. J. Hassett, Best Soldier, Cpl. P. O'sullivan, Comdt. F. Geary.
(Photo: Cpl. J. Hogan)

Lt. D. O'Brien, Sgt. J. Collins and Sgt. P. Sullivan competing in a Pitch & Putt competition at Murphy Bks., Ballincollig.
(Photo: Cpl. J. Hogan)

OFFICERS PROMOTIONS - JULY

Name	To	From	To
Archbold, Peter J.	Comdt.	HQ Staff, E. Comd.	Ops. Staff, HQ E. Comd.
O'Connor, James P.	Comdt.	SO (Capt.) D/S & T	SO (Comdt.) D/S & T
Coleman, William P.	Comdt.	Trg. Offr. 'A' Coy. 7 Inf. Bn.	OC, 2 Grn. Coy. S & T

N.C.O.'s PROMOTIONS - JULY

Raynor, D.	CQMS	2 Maint COE	Clancy Bks. Coy.
Murphy, P.	CQMS	2 Mtr. Sqn.	Retains
Conroy, S.	CQMS	1 Inf. Bn.	Retains

CURRAGH COMMAND

THIS year was a special occasion at the Army Apprentice School, Naas as the 21st Platoon completed its 3 year period there and graduated. The OC Curragh Comd. Brig. Gen. D. Hurley viewed the parade and trophies were presented by representatives of Irish Shell, Kings Wear, SIMI and AnCO.

Pte. John Dillon, 2 S & T Winner of the AnCo scholarship with AnCO Representative Mr. R. Byrne. He is a son of Sgt. P. Dillon (Retd.), Newbridge.

(Photographs: Air Corps and Cpl. J. Gorman)

Best Armourer, App. Michael Farry from Phibsboro receiving his trophy from Mr. M. McStay, Irish Shell.

Winners of the Command Pitch & Putt championship. **Front:** CQMS D. Murphy, Cpls. J. Flynn, R. Power, T. McCormack. **Back:** Sgt. P. O'Brien, Lt. T. Byrne, Cpls. J. Behan, N. Burke, C/S J. Harman, Pte. M. Meehan.

(Photo: Cpl. P. O'Grady)

App. William Buckley, Best All Round apprentice. He is a native of Killorglin, Co. Kerry.

Gnr. B. Downey who has just made the Irish International Team for the 1,500 metres and who recorded a very impressive double in the All Army Sports.

(Photo: Capt. P. O'Grady)

Command Golfer of the Year — Fr. J. Conlon, C.F., with left to right: Comdt. B. Dwyer, Lt. Col. J. Fagan, Comdt. C. Madigan, Col. E. Condon.

(PHoto: Capt. P. O'Grady)

AIR CORPS

The Hawker Sidley 125 at Baldonnel. This jet is used for transporting members of the Government to E.E.C. meetings. *Right:* Pilot Comdt. K. Hogan, at the controls of the jet. (Air Corps photos)

Air Corps Apprentice School Team, winners of the Camp Gaelic Football League, at Baldonnel in May. *Back Row – L. to R.:* Sgt. J. Cummins, Sgt. D. Murphy, F/Sgt. F. O'Brien, Appt. E. Sugrue, T. O'Loughlinn, J. Cunniffe, L. Lynch, J. O'Connor, Sgt. G. McCann. *Front Row:* Sgt. F. Peppard, Appt. N. McNulty, D. Murphy, P. Dunne, J. Sewell, J. O'Sullivan, A. McIntyre, and M. Doyle.

LETTER TO EDITOR

27 Inf. Bn.,
Castleblaney.

Editor,
An Cosantóir.

Sir,

ARMOURED REGIMENT

Having read with interest the letter in June 1979 issue of *An Cosantóir* by Sgt. J. R. Gallagher I would like to make the following points.

He headed his letter "Why We Need An Armoured Regiment". At no stage in his letter did he say *why we do need* an Armoured Regiment. All he did was to give us his idea of: location, organisation and back-up.

He started by stating he would like to suggest the establishment of a highly mobile Armoured Regiment. I do *not* see any reason why we should need an Armoured Regiment of this size in a country as small as ours.

Sgt. Gallagher made good points as to the organisation and equipment of the Regiment but even he would have to admit that the cost would be prohibitive with regards to Defence Forces Budget and the National Economy as a whole.

In conclusion I would suggest that the only time a country of our *size and limited economic wealth* being able to afford an Armoured Regiment of this magnitude, is in the eventuality of the United States of America withdrawing her troops from Europe, thereby compelling the EEC to form some kind of European Defence Force Army.

Yours
CPL. G. BYRNE.

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NAVAL SERVICE

Lt. M. Quillinan, NS and his bride Miss Patricia O'Sullivan at their wedding reception in the Officers Mess, Haulbowline with Lt. Comdr. and Mrs. W. R. Murphy.

(NS photo)

PO G. Cahill, NS runner up in the All Army BAP competition receiving his trophy from the Minister for Defency Mr. Robert Molloy, T.D. (NS photo).

During the visit of the L. E. Deirdre to Hamburg the OC Lt. Comdr. J. J. Kavanagh, NS made a presentation to Capt. Baron Von Stockleberg.

Communications Division NS winners of the Signal Corps Basketball championships at Tralee. Front L. to R: O/Sigs. Griffin; Curristan; Duggan and Barrett. Back: Capt. Brennan; O/Sig. Higgins; L/Sig. Walker; O/Sig. Wall and PO Donoghue.

(NS photo)

Naval Cadets of the 18th Class with Lt. A. Mahony, NS aboard the STY Creidne prior to departure for a training cruise to France.

(NS photos)

During the Dunlaoire Festival, pictured aboard the French Naval Vessel Laoire were L. to R: Col. A. Lawlor, Maritime Institution; Rear Admiral F. de Queler; Lt. Comdr. A. Keogh, NS; Comdr. L. Patte and Comdr. L. S. Maloney, NS.

(Photo: Pat Sweeney)

45 INF. BN. UNIFIL

Bn. Chaplain, Fr. A. Ward, C.F.

Mounting a Guard at a post.

The Force Commander talking to Pte. J. Carton, C Coy.

The Force Commander, Maj. Gen. E. Erskine, and Bn. OC Lt. Col. T. Quinlan being briefed by Comdt. C. Dodd, OC C Coy.

Sgt. J. Kelly, Cpl. P. Brien and Sgt. F. Boyle of A Coy.

The Force Commander inspecting A Coy Sgt. F. Boyle, Ptes. Donnelly, Finn, and Young.

ALL ARMY WEEK - A PERSONAL VIEW

Capt. Peter O'Grady

THIS year's All Army Week began on Sunday, 17th June, with the FCA shooting competitions being held in the Curragh. From there, the action switched to Fermoy on the Monday night for the final of the inter-unit hurling competition, the Chaplain's Cup, between the 30 Inf. Bn. (Kilkenny) and 1 Inf. Bn. (Galway).

Then on Tuesday, the week really got into its stride with the first day of the All Army Shooting competitions held at Kilworth. This was followed, that afternoon, by an inter-command coxed fours rowing competition, run off on the river Blackwater and Fermoy was, again, the venue. Later that evening for the inter-unit football final played for the Medical Services' Cup, between HQ, Eastern Command, and the General Training Depot, Curragh.

Wednesday was the final day of the All Army Shooting at Kilworth and the Army Week was brought to a close the following Saturday and Sunday, with the All Army Sports held at McDonagh sports field.

It all added up to a hectic few days of personal achievements, disappointments and commitment and what I have attempted to do in this article is to piece together all the various happenings for the benefit of those who attended, and for those who were not able to be a part of this year's All Army Week.

FCA SHOOTING COMPETITION

Sunday, 17th June, was a beautiful, warm, sunny day and the ranges of the Curragh were covered with big marquee tents (for food and refreshments) and eight man tents (for participants) with families and girl-friends adding a touch of gaiety and colour to an already festive occasion.

Crowds were gathering as we were shown to the car park by the enthusiastic smartly turned out Military Police from the 2 Field MPC. As is usual at such events, most of the knowledgeable spectators had gathered around the score board to see, at first hand, the changes taking place as units from all over the country battled for supremacy in the rifle, gustaf and LMG competition.

The competition was friendly but keen as one could sense the great importance which units attach to victory in any of these events. This importance ensures that the standards will be high, and this was certainly the case.

For example, Lt. M. Meally, 'C' Coy, 9 Inf. Bn., in Castlecomer, came within one point of the army record with a score of 102 in winning the individual rifle competition from Pte. Parsons, ('C' Coy, 21 Inf. Bn., Wicklow) with Pte. O'Brien ('C' Coy, 16 Inf. Bn., Tullamore) in third place. The individual gustaf SMG competition went to Sgt. Leahy ('E' Coy, 13 Inf. Bn., Mallow) for the fifth time with scores of 37, 40, 38, 40 in the various practices which meant that he had only dropped 5 pts from the highest possible score which all adds up to very impressive shooting indeed.

Trophies being arranged by C/S J. O'Sullivan and Sgt. W. Norton prior to the All Army Shooting Competitions at Kilworth. (Air Corps photo)

In the honours list, a special place must also be found for the 14 Inf. Bn. from Limerick. This unit, as their CO, Comdt. Corrigan, was quick to point out, by virtue of their victory in the SMG team competition became the only unit to have won all four competitions in their history. And so there was plenty of celebrating on the way back to Tipperary and Limerick; who knows, the 14 Inf. Bn. may still be celebrating!

While all these performances were in the making there was a short break for lunch and we adjourned to the big marquee. There the 'Q' staff from the Curragh, Lt. Col. Ryan, Comdt. Gibson, Capt. McKenna with excellent helpers in C/W Power, R/Q Jordan and cooks Sgts. Furlong and Mulhall provided an excellent meal.

But scarcely had we finished than it was back to the serious business of shooting, and to final preparations for the arrival of Mr. Raphael Burke, T.D., Minister of State for Industry, Commerce

30th Inf. Bn. team, Kilkenny, this year's winners of the Chaplain's Cup. *Front – L. to R.*: Pte. J. Earle, Sgt. W. O'Brien, Pte. T. Berry, Cpl. J. Cooper, Pte. M. Nolan, Sitt. N. O'Neill, Cpl. M. Sullivan, Sgt. L. Barry, Pte. S. Holden and Pte. T. Prendergast. *Back*: Cpl. M. McCarthy, Pte. T. Everett, Cpl. E. Grehan, Cpl. J. Phelan, Cpl. P. Butler, Pte. O. Cullen, Cpls. S. Kiely, R. Hogan, P. Prendergast, N. Casey and Sgt. S. O'Grady.

(Air Corps photo)

and Energy, who in place of the Minister for Defence was to present the prizes.

The Chief of Staff, Lieut. General Carl O'Sullivan and Brigadier-General Dermot Hurley, in his first official function as General Officer Commanding the Curragh Command, were there to greet Mr. Burke on his arrival.

A guard of honour drawn from the 20 Inf. Bn., Griffith Bks., under the command of Lt. J. Hempes, with Lt. P. Bannon on the flag, rendered, the salute aided by the 10 Inf. Bn. Pipe Band Wexford.

All this took place on number 4 range, where the crowd had congregated to watch the very spectacular falling plates competition. This event is always a favourite with the spectators, and yielded plenty of excitement, before the team from the 11 Inf. Bn., Bandon, eventually emerged triumphant.

At this stage most of the events had reached their conclusion and on moving over to the prize-giving area behind number three range we learned of the victory of 'C' Coy, 16 Inf. Bn., Tullamore, in the rifle team competition, the victory of 'B' Coy, 9 Inf. Bn., Callan, in the LMG team and of Pte. P. J. Power from the same unit in the individual which all added up to making Comdt. D. Flood, as OC of the unit, a very happy man.

At the presentation of prizes Mr. Burke praised the FCA for the important rule it plays and emphasised that the appointing of a new Director for the FCA demonstrated the high regard with which the FCA is held by the government and the country.

So ended the FCA shoot for another year. Units went home either rejoicing or thinking of what might have been; but there is always next year when units from all over the country will again come together and with enthusiastic effort and skill attempt to claim one of the major trophies.

CHAPLAIN'S CUP FINAL

30th Inf. Bn. (Kilkenny) bidding to win the title for the third time in a row, and the sixth time in all, and the 1st Bn. (Galway), trying to win this competition for the first time since 1967.

The 30th Bn. began impressively, with their forwards displaying the greater combination and hurling know-how, and ability to take scores. Very impressive in this department were P. Prendergast and the full forward R. Hogan (whose other sport is judo I might add!) and how all six forwards combined so well together.

At half-time the 30th Inf. Bn. led 3-5 to 0-4, and were full value for that lead.

On the resumption the team from the 1st Bn. rallied and enjoyed their best period of the match. However, in spite of the valiant efforts of D. Flynn, a noted hurler with Liam Mellowes, G. Mahony, a former Galway senior hurler, M. Winters from the Mullagh Club and F. Gleeson from Clarinbridge, the goals which the 1st Bn. badly needed were not forthcoming.

One of the main reasons for this was that when the Galway pressure was at its greatest, the rock solid 30th full back line of M. Nolan, S. Grady and J. Earle came into its own and effectively sealed off all avenues to goal.

Then roared on by their enthusiastic mentors, Comdt. Goulding, Sgt. Major O'Callaghan and Sgt. Hennessy (a noted referee in the Kilkenny area), the 30th Bn. forwards got going again, and ensured that victory went to the more finely balanced 30th Bn. team.

Teams & Scores

30th Bn: O. Cullen; M. Nolan; S. Grady; T. Earle; T. Berry, J. Cooper (Capt.) (0-1); T. Prendergast; P. Butler (0-1); E. Grehan; P. Prendergast (0-5); S. Kiely (0-1); S. Holden (1-0); M. Sullivan (0-2); R. Hogan (2-1); W. O'Brien (1-2).

1st Bn: T. Carr; M. Harold; T. Aherne; A. Foley; M. Byrne; K. herbert (Capt); D. Pierce; T. Conway; D. Flynn (0-3); P. Winters; M. Winters (0-1); M. Gualish; N. Maher; F. Gleeson (0-1); G. O'Mahony (0-1).

As a result, the celebrations that night were as enthusiastic as if Kilkenny had just won the All Ireland Final, and the men from the 30th Inf. Bn. went home happy in the knowledge that they had achieved that elusive three in a row.

But for some that Monday evening was one of preparation, as all the teams began arriving for next days shooting competitions at Kilworth.

And that meant headaches for Capt. T. Carter (1 FAR), Camp Commandant in Kilworth, and his staff of Capt. Fingleton (1st Armoured, Fermoy), Capt. O'Meara (Limerick), the Minogues, brothers and captains, from Cork, along with C/S Doyle (3rd AA Limerick), QM Mullins (Depot Artillery Kildare), QM Bracken (6 Bn.), QM Hensey (5 Bn.), Sgt. O'Connor (Depot Cavalry), Cpl. Larkin (6 Bn).) and Cpl. Donnelly (5 Bn.).

Others working hard that evening included the Mess Secretary in Fermoy Capt. O'Neill and his Mess Sergeant, Sgt. Coady, and the new Adjutant in Fermoy, Capt. Cremin. There was the usual confusion over some of the bookings and some last minute alterations in plan, which necessitated some minor adjustments of names on doors, and the usual hustle and bustle of goings and comings, which were all part and parcel of All Army week.

However, in the good old army traditions out of near chaos emerged order - everyone was looked after - and the various staffs involved in Kilworth and Fermoy coped efficiently with the big influx of numbers for the first days shooting in the shooting competitions on Kilworth range.

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Day 1 of Shooting Competitions:

Bright and early next morning (0730 to be precise) everyone was up having breakfast in Fermoy and Kilworth. At 0900 hours the officials and butt parties took up their positions on the ranges, as rehearsed the previous evening, and competitions smoothly began an hour later.

On number two range the Gustaf competition (team and individual) took place, and it was a personal success for Capt. C. Lawlor (1st FAR) as he won the individual, and helped his team to take the team event.

In the individual, he was followed home by C/S D. Keegan (1st Motor Sqn.) and Capt. J. Gallagher (Depot Cav.), who was last year's winner. In the team event, second place went to the 2nd Motor Squadron, and third to 1st Inf. Bn.

Also on number two range, the BAP Individual was decided, and won by Capt. N. Farragher, a previous winner in 1975 and 1976, followed by P. O. Cahill (Naval Service) and Comdt. S. Duffy (2nd Inf. Bn.).

During the day attention was also switching to number four range where the LMG team and individual was in progress, and the score board had to be consulted on many occasions to keep track of results, as competition waged intently.

However there was also a great sense of comradeship and friendship, which is particularly noticeable during Army week, where old friends renew acquaintances, and relive adventures from the past. And it is this, together with the slaging and banter from rival units which help to make All Army week, wo enjoyable for all concerned.

After the dinner-break a lot of attention was focused on the rifle and here the individual went to Sgt. M. Devaney, who, with a score of 352 pts, retained his title. He was followed by Cpl. T. Byrne (1st Motor Sqn.) with CQMS J. Doyle (13 Bn.) in third place.

In the team event first home were the 1st Motor Squadron with 784 pts, winning a title they had last won in 1977, with the 30th Inf. Bn., second and the 6 Inf. Bn., third.

So the first days shooting came to an end, and no doubt the happenings of the day were the subject of many a conversation that night.

Be that as it may, however, victory and vanquished turned up on the banks of the Blackwater at Fermoy Rowing Club, to witness the coxed fours final in rowing, later that evening.

COXED-FOURS ROWING:

The weather was certainly ideal for a sport which has become on in leaps and bounds in the army over the last few years. The large attendance enjoyed themselves and certainly got plenty to cheer about, as the very high standard of competition and performance.

The first shock of the competition was the elimination of the Curragh team (Lt. S. Dukelow, Cadets Gill, Furey and McHugh) by a powerful team from the West. This team from the Western

Command consisted of Lt. P. Aylward, Pte. S. Tierney, Lt. T. Aherne and Capt. E. Colclough; and when one considers that Lt. P. Aylward (all 6ft. 4 ins. of him!) is the first army officer to captain University College Galway Boat Club, and that Capt. E. Colclough is an elite oarsman, maybe the result was not such a shock after all.

In the final, the team from the West came up against a team from the Eastern Command which had two very experienced members in Lt. B. O'Dea who has national championship wins in schoolboy eights with St. Ignatius Galway and maiden and junior eights with Neptune and Tom McNally, maiden and junior eights with University College Dublin.

This experienced pair, together with Lt. S. Kearns and Lt. C. McMahon, two experienced rowers with U.C.G. Boat Club proved too powerful for the West and duly won by two lengths over the 1300 metres course.

So ended, in brilliant sunshine, a competition which had been very enjoyable for the large attendance and which had seen the Eastern Command with four experienced rowers win out in impressive fashion.

The fact that the competition ran so smoothly was due in no small way to the efforts of Capt. D. Lalor, and Lt.-G. Hannon, the official starter, while a lot of the preparatory work has been carried out by Comdt. M. Harrington, who unfortunately due to illness, was not able to attend the finals. The Navy was there also to ensure that there would be no accidents, and with sub/Lt. S. Anderson and Cpo J. Walshe they did a splendid job.

Colonel J. Gallagher, Director of Training, presented the trophy to Capt. McNally, Captain of the Eastern Command team, and with that the crowds began to disperse in the hope of getting something to eat before the Medical Services Cup Final which was due to start at 1930 hours.

MEDICAL SERVICES FOOTBALL FINAL

Of all the events in Fermoy during the week, this match between the Eastern Command HQ and the General Training Depot, attracted the greatest amount of public interest. No doubt this was due in no small way to the presence of D. Earley (Roscommon) and J. Courtney (Cork) on the Curragh Team

Be that as it may, a large crowd gathered in Gaelic Park, Fermoy for the eagerly awaited clash. The game was less than ten minutes old before the Eastern Command HQ were first to strike with J. J. O'Reilly, the Wanderers and Connaught Rugby player finding the net with a dipping right footed shot, and thereby inspiring his forwards to put together some very exciting moves.

At the stage T. Shaw and B. Higgins were doing extremely well in the middle of the field, J. Murphy was marking D. Earley very tightly, and the Eastern HQs back line of N. Comer, S. Clooman and M. McGrath were giving the McDonagh forwards very little room.

The Chief of Staff, Lt. Gen. C. O'Sullivan presenting the Gen. Mulcahy Shield to Capt. S. McCann captain of the Curragh Comd. Athletic Team winners at the All Army Sports. (Air Corps photo)

So the East went in at half time deservedly leading by 1-4 to 0-3. However, on the resumption, matters changed as McDonagh put in a spirited second half revival during which time their inter-county stars, D. Earley (Roscommon), J. Courtney (Cork) and T. Doyle (Westmeath) threatened to take complete control of the game. Some exciting runs from W. Clifford also put tremendous pressure on the Eastern Command defence, as McDonagh closed the gap to one point. Then in the space of two pulsating minutes, the game was won and lost.

O. Broe (McDonagh) sent in one of his renowned left-foot shots, which brought a thrilling full length save from T. Gilleran in the Eastern Command goal. The action then swung to the other end and J. J. O'Reilly who was causing fierce problems to the McDonagh defence got his fist to a high ball to score the crucial goal for the East and his own second.

That was the deciding score, as the Eastern HQ got renewed heart from it, and their forwards began to further pressurize the McDonagh defence, while McDonagh's challenge passed slightly, although T. Archibold and E. Sheehan in the half back line and O. Broe and J. Cremin in the forwards as well as those already mentioned tried hard to the end, but were never able to make up the deficit.

The Eastern HQ team thus ran out worthy

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winners by 2-6 to 0-8 and it was fitting for the East that P. Archibold, the trainer and a former Kildare and Tipperary senior player should come on as a sub and ensure victory for his side by notching the last point of the game.

So the Eastern HQ team had succeeded in winning for the first time in over twenty years and victory had gone to the better balanced all round team with the man of the match award to J. J. O'Reilly and tall full-forward who ended up with a tally of 2-2.

TEAMS & SCORES

Eastern Comd. HQ: T. Gilleran, N. Comer, S. Cloonan, M. McGrath, P. Byrne, J. Murphy, M. Kennedy, B. Higgins, J. Shaw (0-2), M. Tennison, L. Fitzgibbon, J. Lynch (0-1), P. Rooney, J. J. O'Reilly (2-2), G. Aherne (Capt.).

Subs. P. Archibold for P. Rooney.

GENERAL TRAINING DEPOT

T. Kinsella, A. Coffey, C. Christie, K. Connolly, E. Sheehan, T. Archibold, J. Farrell, J. Courtney (0-3), T. Doyle, D. Murphy, D. Earley (0-2), W. Clifford (0-1), O. Broe (0-1), J. Cremin (0-1), P. Hayden. Subs. D. Geogh for P. Hayden (injured).

There was plenty of rejoicing in Fermoy that night as all members of the Eastern Command present were thoroughly delighted by the result and were not trying too hard to conceal the fact!

The players were also delighted because as Eastern team captain G. Aherne had pointed out in his speech, when accepting the trophy, the team had worked hard for it, and a great deal of the credit for this was due to P. Archibold, trainer.

DAY 2 - SHOOTING COMPETITIONS

Early next morning, attention again focused on the Kilworth ranges for the final days shooting in the competitions.

Numbers on the Wednesday had greatly increased, as is usual for the final day, and the competitions continued unabated up to dinner hour.

The LMG individual went to Cpl. J. O'Sullivan from the 4th Inf. Bn. with Cpl. J. Dunne from the 6th Inf. Bn. second, and Cpl. J. Conroy, 4th Inf. Bn. in third place. The LMG team event had to be decided on a shoot-out before the 6th Inf. Bn. edged ahead of the 12th Inf. Bn., both having tied on 323 pts with the 30th Inf. Bn. in third place.

The sniper individual was won by Sgt. S. Gahan, 1st Motor Sqn. with 86 pts followed closely by Sgt. N. Heavey (4th Inf. Bn.) and Sgt. R. Malone (28th Inf. Bn.).

With these competitions decided, there was a break for dinner, and an excellent salad was provided by the 3rd Regiment from Templemore with Capt. O'Curry in charge.

With the arrival of the Minister for Defence, Mr. Robert Molloy, with the Chief of Staff, Lt. General Carl O'Sullivan, and members of the General Staff, the final competition, the falling plates competition which is indeed the highlight of the two days shooting, commenced.

The competition proved to be extremely entertaining and exciting, with the final between the 12th Inf. Bn. Limerick and the 3rd Inf. Bn. Curragh. This final epitomised the rest of the competition, and went to the final shoot-off before the 12th Bn. won in 18.4 secs, having also been winners of this competition in 1976 and 77.

The Southern Command made a clean sweep of the remaining competitions, the Marksmans Cup and the Combined Weapons Cup.

The shooting competitions for 1979 were then brought to a close with Mr. Robert Molloy, Minister for Defence presenting the prizes, and praising everyone concerned with the efficient running of the competitions.

So the curtain came down on activities in the Fermoy/Kilworth area; everyone departed in their various different directions to their home stations, leaving behind only the Q staff to tidy up and return Kilworth Camp to the peace and quiet it knew, before this hectic week began.

But Army Week still had one important event remaining, the All Army Sports which were being held in McDonagh Sports Grounds Curragh on the following Saturday and Sunday.

ALL ARMY SPORTS

It was a wet and breezy Saturday afternoon which greeted the athletes, not in the least bit conducive to good performances.

However, that did not dampen the enthusiasm of the athletes, and very soon there were a number of notable performances for the small crowd to enthuse about.

Chief among these were: Gnr. B. Downey (Curragh) in beating the holder Capt. K. Humphreys in a very fast 800 metres final, timed at 1 min. 56 seconds, which was excellent running in the conditions.

Pte. Carlin from the West showed his outstanding ability in winning the Long Jump, High Jump and Discus, all of which helped him to retain the General Mulcahy Trophy, as the outstanding athlete of the competitions.

Events continued on Sunday afternoon, but if they did, then so did the rain, which made it particularly uncomfortable for the spectators and athletes.

However it failed to effect the athletes, and Gunner B. Downey continued on his impressive way in also winning the 1500 metres.

The new Irish international athlete from the Curragh Lt. Gerry Delaney was also in impressive form, and recorded a convincing double in the 100 and 200 metres. He surprisingly did not take part in the 400 metres, and Cpl. O'Reilly from the South took full advantage to win, followed closely by Cpl. O'Rourke from the East.

But the biggest cheer of the day was reserved for Cpl. Pat Murphy from Kildare, who came in unopposed to win the 5000 metres for a record sixth time, which is indeed a fantastic achievement.

Not surprisingly with athletes of this calibre in its ranks, the Curragh Command duly won the relay race, and the Perpetual Challenge Shield, as the

command winners, while the Southern Command took both the Tug-of-War events, displaying in the process, their wealth of experience in these events.

The Chief of Staff, Lt. General Carl O'Sullivan, in the presence of the General Staff, presented the prizes.

The sports were further highlighted by a helicopter rescue display by the Air Corps, and a gymnastic display by personnel from the gymnasium in the Curragh.

So All Army Week is over for another year. But All Army Week is much more than the recordings of winners each year; rather does it give everyone who attends, the chance to get outside their Command boundaries, to see the Army as a whole, and to make friendships and acquaintances which can only be of benefit to the Army.

If every unit had some representation at All Army Week, whether it be competitor or spectator, it would greatly help to increase numbers attending, which I am led to believe have declined in the last few years.

A number of people I talked to during the week were also of the opinion that each day of the week should be taken up with some All Army Competition. As it was, during this All Army Week, Thursday and Friday were free days and maybe if competitions continued all week it would attract greater numbers. It certainly would be worth looking into!

Meanwhile All Army Week retains its importance as one week in the year when all corps and commands can get together. It is a week which is of benefit to the Army, and to all who take part and attend, and it is only with the cooperation of every unit that it will remain such an important week in the Army calendar.

THE FIRST ALL-ARMY CHAMPIONSHIP

Sgt. Billy Norton

AUGUST the 25th 1923 heralded the first All-Army Athletic Association Championship. They extended from that date to September 7th, and never in the history of Athletics in Ireland had such a programme been offered to the public. The entries for the athletic events were numerous 1,100 of the Army's best athletes were striving to have the distinction of been greeted as Army Champions. The Athletics events were held in Croke Park and the price of admission was 2s. 1s. boys 6d. A splendid musical programme was provided and at the finish the Chief of Staff General Sean McMahon presented the cups and medals. A roll call of the first Army Champions - the 100 yards winner was Capt. L. Prior, G.H.Q., 200 yards Sgt. M. Hennessy, Dublin Command, 400 yards Capt. K. O'Farrell, Dublin Command, 800 yards Lt. T. O'Connor, Dublin Command. One mile Lt. K. Rea, Limerick Command. Three miles Sgt. P. Holohan, Claremorris Command, 120 yards hurdles Lt. V. Horgan, Special Inf. Corps, One mile Cycle Capt. Bertie Donnelly, Dublin Command the Irish Champion who also won the All-Army three miles and five miles Championship, the 6 lbs shot Pte. P. Martin, Donegal Command, 56 lbs over bar Lt. T. Enright, Limerick Command, Discus Capt. F. O'Doherty G.H.Q. The Tug "O" War was won by the Cork Command. The All-Army Golf Championship was held on the 27th August at Hermitage Golf Links Lucan and the winner was Col. D. Carroll of the Medical Services. The boxing Championship was held on the 28th to 30th of August at the Round Room, Rotunda Cinema, Admission was 5s, 3s, 2s and 1s. The first Champions

Sgt. E. Leahy, 13 Inf. Bn., Mallow winner for the fifth time of the FCA Gustaf Ind. championship. (Air Corps photo)

were Fly-Weight Vol. J. Joynt, Cork Command, Bantam Cpl. F. Traynor, Kerry Command, Feather Vol. M. Doyle, Light-Weight Bugler T. Kellegher, Special Inf. Corps, Welter Sgt. Paddy Dwyer, Independent Service and Middle-Weight Sgt. Major W. Delaney, Works Corps. The Hand-Ball Championship was held at the "Boot" ball court Ballymun and the Champions were hard doubles the Curragh Command, soft doubles Waterford Command. The individual winners were Capt. T. Whelan, Curragh Command and Pte. D. Delahunty, Waterford Command. The first All-Army swimming Championship was held on the 1st of September in the Zoological Gardens, admission there was 1s and 6d, Comdt. M. A. O'Connor, Corps of Engineers one of the great swimmers of the 1920's and an Irish International water Polo player won the 100, 200 and 400 metres Championship. The Tennis Championship was held on the 29th and 30th of August at the University College Grounds Terenure. Major-General C. Davitt G.H.Q. Command became the first Tennis Champion. The Football and Hurling Championship were played in Croke Park in September, in the football final Dublin Command defeated G.H.Q. Command, the winners had the service of Capt. Johnny Murphy of Dublin Inter-County fame, one of the most finished exponents of the game in Ireland during the 1920's.

The photograph (over) shows the GHQ Command team that beat the Kerry Command in the first round of the All-Army Championship on the 18th July, 1923. There were ten teams in the first every All-Army, the Dublin Command, G.H.Q. Command, Kerry Command, Claremorris Command, Donegal Command, Curragh Command, Athlone Command, Cork Command, Limerick Command and the Independent Service. The two Semi-Finals were played in August in the first game Dublin Command defeated Independent Service, the winners included its GOC Major-General Dan Hogan the first President of the Army Athletic Association and Rev. Father Sean Pigott. The Independent Service team had a strong representation including Vol. Tom Murphy of Tipperary and Lt. Paddy Finlay of Leix both All-Ireland medal holders. In the second Semi-Final the Limerick Command beat the Cork Command. The winners had the service of Comdt. Tom McGrath the Clare man who helped his County to win its first and only All-Ireland title in 1914. In the final which was played on Sunday the 7th of September in Croke Park, Limerick Command became the first All-Army Hurling Champions defeating the Dublin Command.

Left to Right (Back Row): Pte. T. Shea, Pte. W. Snee, Capt. M. Lennon (Capt.), Capt. J. F. Chisholm, Pte. B. Keogh, Pte. P. Morrison, Pte. T. Kelly. *Centre, Left to Right:* Comdt. M. Kennedy, Pte. T. Barry, Sgt. F. Gill, Capt. J. Brennan, Sgt. M. Gaughran, Capt. M. Doyle. *Front, Left to Right:* Capt. J. Kearns, Lt. C. Holland.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Cathal Brugha Bks.,
Dublin 6.

Editor,
An Cosantóir.

A Chara,

Some time ago you mentioned the two German spies who, trying to get from Dingle to Tralee were said to have asked some workers on the Tralee & Dingle Light Railway when the next train would be along. They were said to have got the reply "Never". "The last train ran twenty years ago". Subsequently I wrote you surmising that it was Kerry cleverness that spurred that reply, suspecting they were spies, when in fact there was a daily goods train running. Actually the passenger service ended in 1939.

But now I have the true account of the incident, which is printed in the recently issued *Journal of the Kerry Archaeological & Historical Society* in a long account by Walter McGrath of the *Cork Examiner* and David Rowlands. It tells how in 1942 fireman Charlie Flaherty was walking the rails near Derrymore when he saw a tall stranger waiting on the disused platform there. He saluted him and the stranger in clipped accent asked vot dime vor dralee der negst drain kommst? Charlie repled 'The last one was three years ago and heaven knows when the next will be'. Shortly after the German stranger was arrested for questioning, having parachuted near Mount Brandon.

This account shows how the story quoted in *An Cosantóir* had become garbled or exaggerated through being repeated. Nevertheless it was correct in essence. The tall stranger was suspected and given a tall story, and the spy was reported and his arrest was a certainty. But it does show how naive the Nazis were to expect a spy without good (Kerry) English to pass without suspicion. Maybe spies should have learnt Irish: or have better disguise and an Irish accent.

Mise le meas,
COMDT. P. D. O'DONNELL.

CORDS and DENIMS
Orries
JEANS, JACKETS and SLACKS

WHAT THE PAPERS NOTICE

WHISTLING SOLDIERS

NO doubt it was inevitable that our participation in Operation "Refuse Collection" would land us in the Ordure. Teresa O'Connor of Rathmines wrote a bitter letter to the *Irish Times* complaining that she had been "faced with a barrage of whistles and comments from a truckload of uniformed soldiers".

Teresa fails to understand "why young men charged with the weighty responsibilities of collecting rubbish, ferrying commuters during bus strikes and defending this country should find it necessary to whistle and guffaw at the sight of any female".

The *Irish Times* sprang to our defence, in a leader no less. "A letter in this page today condemns some soldiers for whistling at girls - including the writer - as they go about their new duties as garbagemen.

The male chauvinist answer could be that if whistling at girls in the streets was abolished by law, we might have something of a population problem. The letter writer is entitled to her view, but the Army Chief of Staff will hardly issue a ukase down the lines, though a few corporals and sergeants will watch their men more carefully as they go about their distasteful task - distasteful but one that they will do to the best of their ability.

The odd female reader may worry when whistling goes out of fashion. Courtesy is an old-fashioned virtue, derided by some women libbers, but cultivated here and there by men, and certainly inculcated into all recruits in our Army."

A few days later another lady took up the cudgels on behalf of the brutal and licentious.

"Sir, - Would Teresa O'Connor (July 21st) prefer to "walk down a street" with possibly masses of rats scuttling around her, have the filthy smell from too-long-kept rubbish etc., than bear with a few wolf whistles from our troops - who are doing a pretty foul job for us - thank heaven, in a light hearted way? I think she should be very grateful to these young soldiers - as they can't actually enjoy doing what the different Corporation men do, instead of soldiering for which they "joined up".

A load of rubbish, in fact! - Yours, etc.,

Eleanor Jameson, Silver Slope, Cabinteely, Dublin 18."

It's an ill whistle that doesn't blow some good,

TOP CAT

John Dillon, Private courageous of the Curragh, was selected Bachelor of the Year at Ballybunion. As the *Independent* reported "Shortly after collecting the £600 first prize John was offered a proposal of marriage. It was very flattering. She was a real beauty, but I have no intention of settling down yet.

Cardinal O'Fiaich being welcomed on arrival from Rome by the Adjt. Gen. Maj. Gen. P. J. Carroll and OCE Comd. Brig. Gen. M. J. O'Brien.

He became a big hit with the local people in Ballybunion when he wrote a special love song about the seaside town."

John was with the 44th Bn. in UNIFIL and was the author of a stirring song, to the air of John Brown's Body, entitled "The Famous 44th."

"We are gathered here together in a land that is distraught,
To help to keep it peaceful in the Service of the Lord,
Peace to every nation, every man should be your friend,
May this land be calm once more.

Glory, Glory, hear that singing,
To the people joy we're bringing,
Round each hillside bells are ringing,
For the famous 44th."

So with his artistic gifts and his £600 dowry its not only John's brown body the girls will be after. How long will he last - maybe the Curragh should run a Sweep.

Pte. John Dillon of GTD Curragh, Bachelor of the Year.

Bass SPORTS

Ah...that's Bass

best in beer
best in sport

Recruiting for the 28 Inf. Bn. Lt. P. Prendergast, and Sgt. N. Devaney. (Photo: Sgt. J. O'Brien)

Cpl. P. Murphy one of the Army's best known athletes, holder of the All Army 5,000 metres title for a record six times. (Photo: Capt. P. O'Grady)

HAPPY THOUGHT

An interesting item and photograph in the *Cork Examiner* showed the Lord Mayor, Brian Sloane, with three old esteemed comrades. To quote the report

"In the closing days of his term as Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr. Brian Sloane performed a nice gesture which had a link with his army days. The former Lord Mayor served in the Corps of Engineers, served in Sarsfield Barracks, Limerick, for about a year; at Spike Island and Haulbowline for close on five years and from 1964 to 1973 at Collins Barracks, Cork. "I came there" he will tell you "via Cyprus" where he did a spell of overseas duty as a member of the Irish peace-keeping force. During his term in the Defence Forces he met, amongst the many officers, NCOs and men with whom he served, Regimental Sergeant Major Victor Aston; Battalion Sergeant Major Dick Byrne and Battalion Sergeant Major Joe Brown.

He felt that during his term is Lord Mayor he should give each of them a little memento of those Army days and so he invited the trio to the City Hall and presented each of them with an inscribed picture of Collins Barracks each including that part of the barracks from which the Sergeant Major had performed his duties.

Present too, at the City Hall were Brigadier-General W. O'Carroll, Officer Commanding Southern Command, and Lieutenant-Colonel M. O'Shea, Officer Commanding 4th Battalion, and of Collins Barracks, Cork."

GUINNESS LIGHT INFANTRY

Guinness launched their new drink, Guinness Light, at the premises across the river from Collins Bks., Dublin. It was evidently a spectacular production attended by legions of pressmen and who better to pass judgement on a new brew.

Donal Foley in his Saturday *Irish Times* column quoted some interesting facts and figures from "an eminently respectable but interested source, Brian Slowey, director in charge of Guinness Beer Division."

"Let us set the record straight about drinking in Ireland. Ninety six per cent of Irish beer drinkers (and there are 850,000 of them) drink two pints, or less, per day on average. This should be set against the background of a report this year from the Royal College of Psychiatrists in the United Kingdom, which suggests that four pints of beer per day may be a safe upper limit of drinking, and against a background of a report, also this year, from the Medico-Social Research Board in Ireland, that we are still in the middle range of European consumption levels."

"One wonders do those who point to the sums of money spent on drink pause to think about the proportion - almost 50% - which goes back to the Exchequer in taxation. The Irish beer drinker is one of the most heavily taxed in Europe. Our own group of breweries collect £100 million per year for the Government - sufficient to meet practically the full cost of our Defence Forces, just to take one example."

And no doubt the Defence Forces down through the years have made a significant contribution to Uncle Arthur's coffers too.

NO JOKE

KERRY'S EYE is a new publication, to us, and describes itself as a "weekly community newspaper, circulation 7,000". In the Tralee edition of June 6th, editor Padraig Kennelly had some hard things to say about "Armed soldiers on the streets. Not part of the democratic process."

Ronan Quinlan photographed 'A' COY 29 Inf. Bn. on patrol (above). Below left Cpl. W. Barry — right Pte. P. McEneaney.

The occasion in question was the transfer of the Euro Ballot papers from Tralee to Cork and the series of six photographs showing Army Transport and armed soldiers was accompanied by the following -

"This series of photos is an important part of the historical record of Ireland's participation in the first Direct Elections to the European Assembly. It is a contradiction in terms to see ballot boxes and ballistic weapons side by side. We have too readily accepted the sight of armed military on our streets. Tralee town was taken over by the Irish Army a few years ago. People went on the streets early one morning to find military barricades on the roads and armed soldiers lurking in doorways on all main streets. No satisfactory explanation for this was ever given."

Hands up the brave man in the IRISH ARMY who took over Tralee Town a few years ago. However *Kerry's Eye* sees a more sinister purpose in it all. "It must be either an Army show of strength to justify a military budget or an effort to prepare the people for a gradual change from our democratic process."

"If they consider that a big display of loaded guns is necessary, then the general public should have been evacuated from the area. One can only presume that the guns were loaded, otherwise it

Capt. S. Hynes, Army Hqrs., photographed these caravelles during a two weeks stay at Glenan's Sailing Centre in Co. Cork.

would be a joke in poor taste. Weapons of the type shown are not accurage enough to use against any individual, in a street full of ordinary citizens going about their business. Tralee is a major tourist centre."

Ah, a Rose is a Rose is a Rose but for the military in Tralee the way is a thorny way.

SPORTSTAR OF THE YEAR

The *Westmeath-Offally Independent* featured the Athlone Sportstars of the year and paid tribute to Cpl. Paddy Mullally a member of the Western Command Band who received the award for his Basketball prowess.

According to the *Independent* account "Paddy Mullally, a Basketball player of exceptional ability, enjoys a position of very high standing in the sport" and very high jumping too as he now holds no fewer than nine All Army Championship medals. He was captain of this years victorious Western Command team.

Why is it that Army Band personnel have been so successful in Basketball circles down through the years. Is it their sense of rhythm? Is it that Band practice and Basketball practice are held indoors and when you have a break from one you can take up the other?.

TODAYS ARMY

Tom Brady had a full page in the *Sunday Press* asking himself "where stands Oglaigh Na hEireann in 1979? What are its problems and where is it going?" Tom tried to answer the questions "in a news special after interviews with the Minister for Defence and Chief of Staff."

"In an interview Mr. Molloy made it clear that he is determined to bring the defence forces up to the proposed strength of 17,600 while continuing his plans for more sophisticated equipment and accommodation.

He believes that the personnel shortages which reached critical proportions during the past year will end soon. "There is evidence to suggest that the downward trend has bottomed out and has been arrested", he claimed.

And to back up that claim he said that for the first time in a year their monthly intake in June exceeded the average wastage. June is traditionally a poor month for recruitment and when our current advertising campaign begins to make a full impact the numbers should rise substantially again."

"Mr. Molloy said he would like to see a younger officer corps in the long term but in the near future this was not feasible. The first priority was to increase the strength of the forces and everybody at the moment was badly needed."

"A Further expansion of the Garda detective branch to reduce the Army's role as an aid to the civil power is favoured by Lt. General O'Sullivan.

The outspoken Chief of Staff said the Gardai were fully trained and more suitably equipped to cope where innocent civilians were involved.

"We realise we must carry out operations like escorting cash and the transfer of prisoners, but we would prefer if many of these jobs were being supervised by the Gardai," he said.

In an obvious reference to the refuse collection dispute, he said: "Lately we have become involved in other jobs which generally dissipate our strength and our standards."

He advocated a definite pay link with civil service grades. "It is possible we could lose out through this on recognition for abnormal hours and duties but you have to be tapped to somebody.

"We want a definite link and no anomalies and would like our special responsibilities to be rewarded."

But the Chief is adamant that they do not want any representative groups or trade unions in the Defence Forces. "We could never run an army like that. Representative groups could lead to a loss of authority and endanger discipline. Ours is a hierarchial system and the responsibility is placed on the Minister and the Government to look after us."

The Army are looking forward to the setting up of the womens service corps, the Chief said. "They will greatly help our staff problems and also act as a civilising influence. Life tends to become monastic in the Army," he joked.

But he pointed out that while the female recruits will be trained in the use of small arms for self-defence there was no intention to use them in offensive operations. Female training officers are to be recruited shortly."

A very interesting page indeed with some very straight talking on all sides.

fact, never left the Sinai. It remained on the Canal all through the artillery exchanges of the War of Attrition. While under fire its OPs reported the opening of the 1973 War. It suffered a number of casualties over the years. Gen. Odd Bull's "War and Peace in the Middle East" is dedicated to four of them, including Capt. Thomas Wickham, and there were more after Odd Bull's time. How a newspaper of the status of the "New York Times" could be so wrong on easily verified facts is hard to understand.

Continued from Page 232

BOOK REVIEWS

THE FACE OF BATTLE John Keegan, Penguin £1.25 + VAT.
From the earliest times battles have been recalled in epic terms or in mathematical terms. This type of military history might stir the pride or educate the mind but by and large it spared us the gory details. The gory details were unwholesome and were the province of the old soldier who would regale the gallery in his local, show his wounds and get free drink.

That military history should be more concerned with line than with colour was correct for the readership had more than a nodding acquaintance with combat and required operational analysis rather than the revival of painful memories. Today it is different; the military enters the fray and commanders are as innocent of warfare as the recruits are. It is as though one were required to conduct an orchestra for the first time — and to do so before the world's most discerning audience. You need the advice and encouragement of an old hand to cope with the "butterflies" — yours and all the players' butterflies too! Lord Moran did 'mentor' for the Battle of Britain RAF and his 'Anatomy of Courage' which encapsulated his guidance was the start of a new literature. Marshalls' "Men Against Fire" followed and the literature developed apace. Anthropology, Psychology and Sociology have developed tgreatly in recent times and they have nourished this developing literature. Baines "Morale" is a fine recent example as is "Cassino to the Alps" (in the official US Army in WWII series). Now comes "The Face of Battle", and in hardback it has been hailed with chauvinistic approval by the British critics.

The book first explains itself and considers Military History. It then recalls Agincourt, Waterloo and the Somme, 'telling it like it is'. Then there is analysis and finally speculation on the future nature of battle. The illustrations are fine and include a photo of a Russian advance in battalion column taken by some intrepid soul facing it! It is a very readable book; surprising, entertaining, shocking, but above all enlightening.

It suffers from the weaknesses inherent in this developing literature; too much deference towards the 'old school' of military historians, a disarming modesty, a wish not to be too intellectual-sounding, and, no mention of sex! The author is carrying buckets of blood about and he does so on 'tippy toes'.

This book will be found to be very helpful indeed by any of its military readers and could soon be, and properly, required reading for cadets. It is the type of book which everyone in the business of military leadership should read if we wish to avoid having the blind leading the blind next time there is a war. When will that be? . . . Answer: Sooner than you think! Get thee to a bookshop.

T.C.L.

WOMEN'S BATTALION W. A. Balinger. Mayflower 75p + VAT.
In an inept attempt to steel myself against the cultural shock our female soldiers will surely cause I read this chronicle of the rise and fall of the Zhenski Battalion. Commanded by a Soviet lesbian sadist and peopled by a strange assortment of uninhibited ladies . . . well, it wouldn't tax your imagination to guess the nature of the book. (Nor would it tax your imagination to write it!) Oh! the shock horror sensation of it all.

All I can do is tremulously utter that chestnut attributed to a Jesuit sociologist, "Thank God we don't have girls like that in Ireland"!

T.C.L.

THE TWILIGHT LORDS. Richard Berleth. Allen Lane. £7.50.
Richard Berleth, a publishing executive in New York with a degree in Renaissance Literature, has now joined, with distinction, the troops of foreign writers who find their subjects in this country. We have long been accustomed to the American view of Yeates, Joyce, Beckett or some other literary lion; a few years ago J. S. Donnelly, from the University of Wisconsin, produced a pioneering study of social conditions in 'The Land and the people of Nineteenth century Cork'; now Mr. Berleth has looked with a fresh eye on the complexities of 16th century Ireland. The 'Twilight Lords' are the Irish leaders of the time, but the English officials are studied in detail; for example, the poet Spencer. He who found preferment in Munster, and saw himself establishing his own little dynasty there, was fortunate to escape with his life, his home in flames, his spirit broken, to die in obscurity in a London Inn a few weeks later.

The savagery of the period is obvious — when the settlers were fleeing to Cork from the ravaged homes in 1599 their womenfolk 'raped and naked, their nostrils alit, were jeered and whipped along the roads by gangs of country louts. Children played at bowling with the heads of murdered settlers.' The author has not set out to produce a definitive history, and he makes no claims to fresh material. But he uses well the contemporary documents available, and while professional historians will find faults, to the general reader this is a most readable account of Elizabeth's Wars, and the maps and genealogies (of the Desmonds, the Earls of Ormond and Tyrone, and the Sidneys) and Index are useful. The unidentified Irish Castle on the jacket might lead one to expect illustrations, but there are none; portraits of the personalities and of their properties would have been welcomed, and expected in so well produced a book.

C.C.

BADGES OF THE BRITISH ARMY 1820—1960. F. Wilkinson, Arms and Armour Press, London. £3.50 + VAT.
This is the third edition of what has proved over the years since its first publication in 1969 to be a very handy pocket sized book.

Included for the first time in this edition is a price guide and I find most of the prices fair and pretty close to those prevailing in the trade.

There is also a list of notes and corrections to the uncorrected Plate Captions at the back of the book. However, as the corrections are incorporated in the Price Guide there is practically no inconvenience experienced. And it IS much cheaper than remaking the plates, a saving reflected in the comparatively low price.

While the pre-1885 I don't think this will affect the majority of readers. If you are collecting badges from that period you'll have 'Kipling and King', at £27.00.

In all over 400 badges are illustrated and priced, and the illustrations will be a great help to those trying to identify untitled badges, e.g. 283, The Royal Army Pay Corps. Most of the badges shown are other ranks cap badges, but some collar and officers badges are shown.

While this small book does not pretend to be exhaustive, it is comprehensive, and I certainly recommend it.

It is very good value for money, little more than the price of an average cap badge.

MEIER

ROCK FILE 5. Charlie Gillett and Simon Frith. Panther. £1.25.
This issue of a series which first appeared in 1972 will be welcomed by Rock enthusiasts; it lists the British Top Thirty Singles and Top Ten LPs 1967—1977, artists and producers are given. There is a useful discussion on the role of the producer, by Mr. Gillett, while his co-author writes on 'Youth Culture, A Decade of Rock Consumption'. For an older, non Pop/Rock generation this may be the most interesting part of the book as it sets out to explain the development of current music from the working class teenage rock 'n roll of the 'fifties to the Cock Rock of to-day. An interesting observation is that 'only a small minority of rock and pop fans focus their leisure attention on their music; the majority of the young, whether working class or middle class in market terms, use their records as background for their important activities — dancing, partying, courting, homework, study!

C.C.

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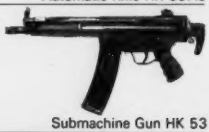

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